Alta Dept of the Provincial Secretary

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Edmonton, February 18th, 1946

TO

HIS HONOUR,

THE HONOURABLE J.C. BOWEN,

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA.

YOUR HONOUR:

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Department of the Provincial Secretary for the fiscal year ended March 31st 1945, and containing some statistics in respect of the Motor Vehicle Branch for the calendar year 1945.

I have the honour to be

Your Honour,

(Sgd.) A.J. Hooke

Provincial Secretary.

Edmonton, February 15th, 1946.

To
The Honourable Alfred J. Hooke, M.L.A.,
Provincial Secretary,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Sir:

I have the honour to submit a report of the chief transactions of the Department of the Provincial Secretary for the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1945, including statistics in respect of motor vehicles for the calendar year ended December 31st, 1945.

REVENUE

	1944-45
General Office:	
Change of Name Act	$ 2,102.00
Companies Act:	
Alberta Companies	26,481.02
Foreign Companies	11,846.10
Dominion Government Grants in lieu of:	
Surcharge on Railway Tax.	38,452.05
Railway Taxation Act	443,308.09
Fuel Oil Tax Act	3808,155.28
Garagemen's Lien Act	158.25
Trust Companies Act	130.00
Miscellaneous Registrations, Extracts, Searches, etc	2,719.22
Corporations Taxation Act:	
Miscellaneous	928.26
Surcharge	12.20
Dominion Grant in lieu of Corporations Tax	892,842.72
Banking Corporations Additional Taxation Act	98,500.00
Amusements Tax Act:	
Amusement Tax	211,339.46
Pari-Mutuel Tax	57,003.65
Theatres Act:	
Censorship Fees	28,689.00
License Fees	14,089.44
Moving Picture Operators' License Fees	3,060.25
Vehicles & Highway Traffic Act:	
Passenger Car Licenses	1503,228.79
Drivers' Licenses	151,859.80
Transfer Fees	18,125.50
Dealers' Plates	9,738.00
Commission on the Sale of Gasoline Ration Books	3,349.75
Miscellaneous Revenue	1,415.17
Alberta Insurance Act:	
Fire Company Licenses	93,015.00
Life Company Licenses	10,350.00
Agents' License Fees:	
Fire and Other Classes	20,236.00
Life	5,044.00
Dominion Grant in lieu of:	
Certain Fees under Alberta Insurance Act	641.97
Fire Prevention Act	11,564.18
Lightning Rod Act	310.85
Real Estate Licensing Act	3,301.00
Miscellaneous	251.67
Total	$ 7,612,749.03
Revenue 1943-44	$7,447,363.01

THE COMPANIES BRANCH

The activities of The Companies Branch greatly increased during the past year. Supplementary certificates were issued to existing companies in respect of alteration of objects, reduction and increase of capitalisation. A great deal of miscellaneous work was performed by the staff of this Branch covering registration of Societies, Co-operative Marketing Associations, Co-operative Associations and Church Congregations, and other miscellaneous work such as proof reading, furnishing memoranda of various kinds and supplying information from the indices and records, as well as preparation of Proclamations and Commissions covering appointments of Justices of the Peace and Notaries Public.

During the year 84 persons were granted a change of name under The Change of Name Act, and 663 liens were registered under The Garagemen's Lien Act.

MOTOR VEHICLE BRANCH

	1944	1945
Passenger Car Licenses Issued	91,500	91,375
Drivers' Licenses	151,735	159,745
Motor Cycle Licenses	885	727

Motor Vehicle Accidents:	1944	1945
Number of Motor Vehicle Accidents in which Damages exceeded $25.00	2,220	2,766
Injury to Persons	641	835
Fatal Accidents	51	73

In fatal accidents, six were killed at railway crossings during the last calendar year and twenty-four killed or died from injuries as a result of accidents in the Cities of the Province. These figures are included in the total number of 73 of such accidents.

It was noticeable that the number of accidents increased soon after the restrictions on gasoline rationing and the Federal regulation governing the rate of speed on the Highway were lifted, and also neglect on the part of drivers to exercise practical precautions to offset winter hazards.

Generally speaking fatal accidents resulted from excessive speed, careless and negligent driging, at railway crossings, skidding on wet, icy and slippery roads (careless winter driging).

Trying to pass on hills and curves.

Children playing on the streets and darting across streets and roadways.

Bicycle and motor cycle riders.

Passing standing street cars.

Pedestrians.

GENERAL PATTERN OF OTHER ACCIDENTS

Excessive speed.

Careless and negligent driving.

Cars without lights.

No lights on wagons, sleights or trailers.

unlighted vehicles.

Glaring lights.

Cars following too closely.

Drivers taking chances on curves and at intersections.

Cars backing from curbs.

Cars taking to the ditch in an effort to avoid an accident.

Poor visibility.

Sun glare.

Dust and wind.

View obstructions.

Wet, slippery and snow roads (Careless winter driving).

Fatigue of driver.

Mechanism of car (brakes, loose wheel, etc.)

Blowouts.

Passing standing street cars.

Convictions During Calendar Year 1945

	Vehicles & Highway Traffic Act	Under The Criminal Code	Munitions & Supply Act
Calgary	361	59	11
Edmonton	491	114	33
Lethbridge	204	2	Nil
Medicine Hat	82	5	6
At Other Points	1,403	224	144
	2,541	404	214

GAOL SENTENCES

	1944	1945
For being intoxicated while in charge of a motor vehicle.....	27	40
Dangerous or reckless dirving.....	3	4
Manslaughter.....	0	1

SUSPENSIONS

Drivers' Licenses suspended.....	112	162

FUEL OIL TAX ACT

For the twelve months of the fiscal year ended March 31st, 1945:

Number of gallons of Coloured Gasoline sold at one cent tax.....	58,245,206.45
Number of gallons sold at seven cent tax.....	48,805,491.33
Total.....	107,158,697.78

For the ten months ended January 31st, 1946:

Number of gallons sold at one cent tax.....	58,867,537.15
Number of gallons sold at seven cent tax.....	49,494,731.75
Total.....	108,362,268.90

With February and March returns for the current fiscal year to be reported, the gallonage of gasoline used will run well over another ten million gallons.

FIRE PREVENTION ACT

While complete fire loss statistics are not yet available for the year 1945 in Alberta (complete year end reports not yet filed), every indication is that there will be an increase in the number of fires and fire damage over the year 1944. There was an increase in the first six months of the year, over the previous year, of 164 fires, and an increase in the fire loss of $198,034.34. This is the trend, however, over both the Dominion of Canada and the United States of America, and until people will pay heed to the continuous pleading of fire prevention engineers for carefulness, the appalling annual fire loss will continue.

Still more pathetic is the loss of life by fire, which has so tragically occurred across Canada the last two months. Since December 1st, 1945, to date, no less than 16 women, 31 men, 57 children have been burnt to death, mostly in dwelling fires. While only a very few of these fatalities occurred in Alberta, the office of the Fire Commissioner is doing everything possible to prevent fire by a systematic inspection of risks, and by means of publicity and education, to avoid needless loss of life.

ALBERTA INSURANCE ACT AND REAL ESTATE ACT

Since the cessation of hostilities there has been a "tightening up" in administration of The Alberta Insurance Act and The Real Estate Agents' Licensing Act, and new regulations are now being enforced. That this is meeting with appreciation by both the public and the business is evidenced by the support it is receiving and the letters written to the Department.

Advisory Boards have been "set up" under both Acts, composed of the Superintendent of Insurance or his representative, and two independent members alternated on the several Boards, to hear applications for license or appeal. While hearings under The Insurance Act become effective with the renewal of Agents' Licenses February 15th, nine board meetings have already been held under the Real Estate Act. Two prosecutions have been instituted for failure to secure license, while three applications for licenses have been rejected. Also effective July 1st, 1945, all Agents and Salesmen have been required under the new regulations to file a bond of a Surety Company. Two applications have been refused because the applicants were unable to secure such a bond.

Three convictions were undertaken in 1945 under The Insurance Act, one for undertaking insurance when not licensed, and two for soliciting membership in unlicensed societies. Heavy penalties were imposed in the two latter cases.

Twenty-two complaints were investigated during 1945

against settlements under insurance policies, being mainly accident and sickness claims.

THEATRES BRANCH

Licenses issued during the calendar year 1945:

Entertainment Halls.....749

Theatres.....140

Travelling Shows..... 32

Itinerant Exhibitors..... 28

Film Exchanges..... 10

TABLE NO. 1

TABULATION OF PLANS SURVEYED, PLACES INSPECTED, AND NUMBER OF RECOMMENDATIONS MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE YEAR BEGINNING APRIL 1st, 1944 AND ENDING MARCH 31, 1945

Number of plans surveyed.....21
New places recommended for license.....21
Number of places inspected.....59
Recommendations re wiring.....58
Recommendations re fire precautions.....47
Recommendations re exits.....60
Recommendations re aisles and seating.....26
Recommendations re ventilation and sanitation.....53

TABLE NO. 2

TABULATION OF PROJECTION ROOM AND PROJECTORS INSPECTED AND RECOMMENDATIONS MADE UNDER THE THEATRE REGULATIONS FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD FROM APRIL,st, 1944, TO MARCH 31st, 1945

Projection rooms inspected.....58
Number of Projectors inspected.....116
Recommendations for repairs..... 86
Projectors condemned as defective..... 8
Recommendations re wiring..... 57
Recommendations re fire precautions..... 59
Recommendations re ventilation..... 35
Number of projection rooms condemned..... 5

TABLE NO. 3

SUMMARY OF EXAMINATIONS TOGETHER WITH NUMBER & CLASS OF CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO PROJECTIONISTS FOR THE TWELVE MONTH PERIOD FROM APRIL 1st, 1944, TO MARCH 31st, 1945.

Number of Licenses Issued

First	108
Second	117
Third	87
Apprentice	53
Provisory Permit	116
Narrow Gauge	63
Total	544

Number of Examinations Held
First.....10
Second.....16
Third.....33
Total.....59

Temporary Permits Granted.....20

CENSORSHIP BRANCH

389 - First Print Features	3,007	Reels
400 - " " Shorts	507	"
271 - " " News	274	"
105 - " " Ep. Serial	213	"
196 - Second Print Features	1,803	Reels
35 - " " Shorts	51	"
538 - " " News	542	"
768 - Trailers.....		
527 - 16mm - First Print Subjects	1,634	"
37 - 16mm - Second Prints	60	"
66 - 16mm - First Print Soundies	131	"
7 - 16mm - Second Print Soundies	10	"
1 - 16mm - First Print Silent	5	"

Refusals.....3
Passed "U".....56.4%
Overall "U".....71.1%
British Features.....17
Russian Features..... 7
Elimination.....39

THE AMUSEMENTS BRANCH

City	Admissions 1943 - 44	Admissions 1944 - 45	Net Receipts 1944 - 45
Calgary	3,998,717	4,168,411	$ 101,498.62
Edmonton	4,273,663	3,896,988	91,186.62
Lethbridge	761,851	761,056	17,454.42
Medicine Hat	616,193	540,122	12,874.28
All Other Places	2,663,907	2,975,509	88,325.42
	12,314,331	12,342,083	311,339.36

Respectfully submitted.

(Sgd) E. Trowbridge

Deputy Provincial Secretary.